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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 234477 TOSEC 270507

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234477 TOSEC 270507

NODIS
FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM MCMANAWAY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: CARTER INTERVIEW

1. THE CARTER INTERVIEW IS BEGINNING TO RECEIVE INCREASING PLAY. AS I TOLD YOU ON THE PHONE, THIS MORNING'S "POST" AND "NEW YORK TIMES" CARRIED THE FACTS OF AND QUOTES FROM THE INTERVIEW BUT HAD NO REACTIONS. THIS AFTERNOON'S "STAR" HOWEVER, HAS BANNER HEADLINE READING "HOW CARTER HAS BUNGLED CAMPAIGN." ARTICLE NOT CONFINED TO INTERVIEW BUT COVERS IT EXTENSIVELY. SAME EDITION OF "STAR" ALSO HAS SECOND FRONT PAGE STORY WITH HEADLINE "BARNYARD LANGUAGE DENOUNCED" IN WHICH ARE QUOTED A NUMBER OF STRONGLY ADVERSE REACTIONS FROM SOUTHERN BAPTIST LEADERS.

2. I HAVE CONSULTED MY SOUTHERN EXPERT AND THE REACTION SEEMS TO BE THAT THIS CONFIRMS PREVIOUSLY HELD FEARS. ALSO LEARNED DURING THAT CONSULTATION THAT ONE HEADLINE IN LOCAL PAPER IS: "CARTER: GOD HAS FORGIVEN LUSTFUL HEART." ALSO
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LEARNED THAT PRIOR TO REPEAT PRIOR TO CARTER INTERVIEW

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BOB JONES UNIVERSITY (A SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRIVATE SCHOOL
WITH WIDE REPUTATION IN SOUTHERN RELIGIOUS CIRCLES) HAD
COME OUT OPPOSED TO CARTER ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE IS TRYING
TO GET INTO THE WHITE HOUSE ON HIS RELIGION AND THAT HE
"SPEAKS WITH FORKED TONGUE."

3. TEXT OF AVAILABLE ARTICLES BEING SENT SEPTEL.

4. ACCORDING TO RADIO REPORTS LESTER MADDOX HAS SAID
(ADD ACCENT WHEN READING): HE WOULDN'T UNDER ANY CIR-
CUMSTANCES DISCUSS HIS FANTASIES (IF ANY) IN PUBLIC AND
THAT JIMMY CARTER IS DAMN FOOL FOR MAKING SUCH A STATEMENT
UNLESS HE THINKS THERE ARE A LOT OF WOMENFOLK WHO ARE
GOING TO VOTE FOR HIM JUST BECAUSE HE IS LOOKING AT THEM.

5. BY THE BYE, JUST LEARNED CARTER'S FAVORITE COLOR:
IT'S PLAID. ROBINSON

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